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Two New Alleculine Species (Coleoptera, Tenebrionidae, Alleculinae) from Japan

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Abstract Two new alleculine species collected from Japan are described under the names *Allecula akitai* sp. nov. and *Mycetochara kimotoi* sp. nov.

In the course of a revisional study on the Japanese alleculine species, the authors had an opportunity of examining two unknown species. One of them collected from Nara was assigned to the genus *Allecula* and the other from Yamanashi to the genus *Mycetochara*. After a careful study, the authors have concluded that both of them are new to science. Thus, they are going to describe two new species from Japan. Before going further into details, the authors wish to express their cordial thanks to Messrs. Katsumi AKITA, Hisai City, and Tatsunosuke KIMOTO, Tokyo, for offering invaluable materials for this study.

The holotypes will be deposited in the collection of the National Science Museum (Nat. Hist.), Tokyo.

Allecula akitai sp. nov.

(Figs. 1, 3–4)

Brownish black, basal halves of antennae, basal parts of femora, tibiae and tarsi, mouth parts, and gula, reddish brown, apical halves of antennae and apical parts of femora darker in colour; each surface rather opaque and covered with short yellowish

hairs. Body elongated fusiform, convex longitudinally.

Head subrhombic, closely covered with small punctures, each with a short suberect hair; clypeus subelliptical, noticeably depressed in basal part, truncate and bent ventrad in apical part, rather distinctly pubescent on each side of frontal edge, with fronto-clypeal border semicircular and finely impressed; frons slightly convex, obviously rugoso-punctate in area between eyes, interior margins of eyes gently grooved, diatone about 1.3 times the width of diameter of an eye in male (1.5 times in female); occiput narrowed. Eyes subreniform in dorsal view, noticeably strongly convex laterad. Antennae filiform, reaching the middle of elytra, ratio of the length of each segment from base to apex: 0.8, 0.45, 1.6, 1.6, 1.4, 1.4, 1.4, 1.3, 1.2, 1.1, 1.2.

Pronotum subquadrate and feebly convex laterad in dorsal view, closely, somewhat rugosely covered with small punctures, each with a short hair; front angles obtusely rounded and hind angles subrectangular in dorsal view; disc moderately convex broadly in middle; sides steeply declined to lateral margins, which are finely rimmed but invisible from above. Scutellum subpentagonal, almost flat, sparsely punctulate and haired.

Elytra about 2.5 times as long as wide, 4.8 times the length and 1.5 times the width of pronotum; dorsum gently convex longitudinally, feebly flattened in middle; disc shallowly grooved with rows of punctures; intervals gently convex, rather sparsely scattered with small granulate punctures, each with a short yellowish hair; sides steeply declined to lateral margins, which are finely rimmed but visible from above except in basal parts; humeri feebly humped antero-laterad; apices gently rounded.

Terminal segment of maxillary palpus noticeably strongly dilated apicad, with internal angle obviously produced in male, simply securiform in female. Prosternum scattered with shallow punctures; meso- and metasterna punctate, with areas before metacoxae impunctate; abdomen scattered with punctures, covered with yellowish hairs.

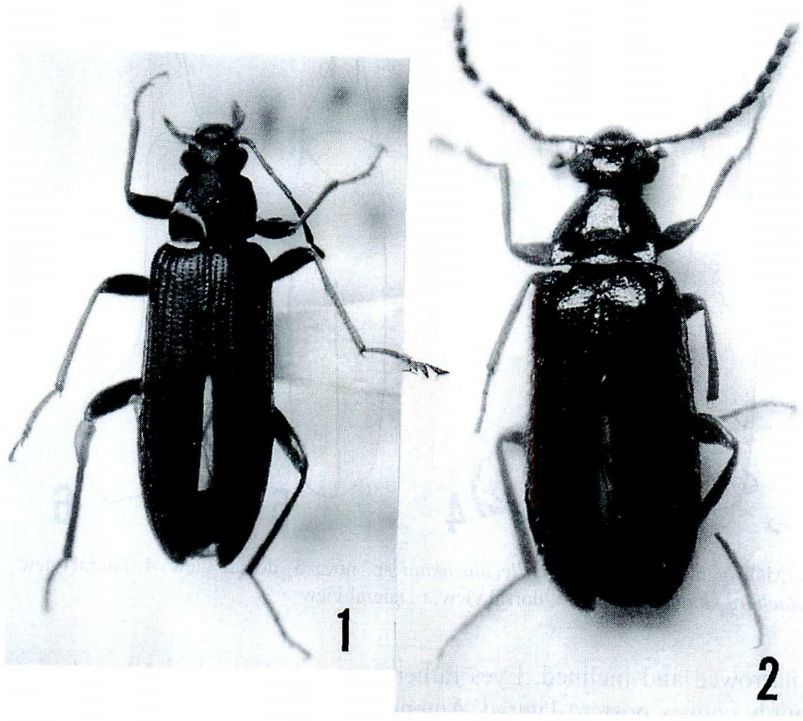
Legs somewhat short-sized for a member of this genus; ratios of lengths of pro-, meso- and metatarsal segments: 1.0, 0.5, 0.25, 0.5, 1.1; 2.0, 0.8, 0.5, 0.5, 1.4; 3.0, 1.0, 0.7, 1.3.

Male genitalia rather slender, about 1.05 mm in length and 0.18 mm in width, strongly curved in lateral view.

Body length: 5.6–6.8 mm.

Holotype: ♂, "Nara-ken, Nara-shi, Kasuga-yama, 140–200 m, 19–V–2002, K. AKITA leg." (NSMT). Paratypes: 7 exs., same data as for the holotype.

Notes. This new species somewhat resembles *Allecula noctivaga* LEWIS, 1895, originally described from Kashiwagi, Japan, but can be distinguished from the latter by the smaller and slenderer body with the pronotum nearly barrel-shaped (rather trapezoidal in *A. noctivaga*).



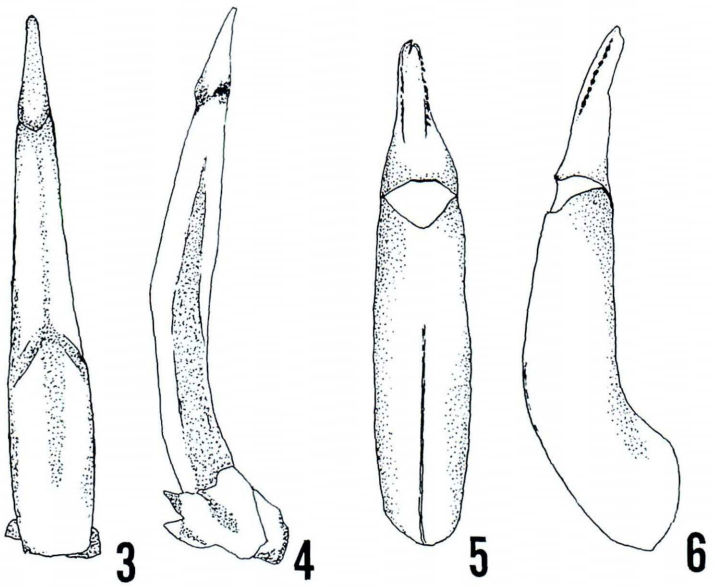
Figs. 1–2. Habitus of alleculine beetles. —— 1, *Allecula akitai* sp. nov., male, holotype; 2, *Mycetochara kimotoi* sp. nov., male, holotype.

Mycetochara kimotoi sp. nov.

(Figs. 2, 5–6)

Head except for clypeus, elytra, abdomen and antennae (mostly 5th to 10th segments) brownish black to blackish brown, clypeus, pronotum, scutellum, legs and the remaining parts of antennae reddish yellow; head, pronotum and antero-medial parts of elytra rather strongly, vitreously shining, postero-lateral parts of elytra and abdomen gently shining; dorsal surface clothed with rather long pale-yellowish hairs. Body elongated ovate, subparallel-sided, gently convex dorsad.

Head subrhombic, scattered with small punctures, each with a suberect, rather long hair; clypeus transversely subhexagonal, obviously depressed, weakly convex in middle, weakly inclined antero-laterad, truncate at apex, with fronto-clypeal border widely curved and clearly impressed; frons gently convex posteriad, feebly flattened in middle, where the punctures become sparser; interior margins of eyes finely rimmed, diatone about 1.5 times the width of diameter of an eye in male (unknown in female);



Figs. 3–6, Male genitalia. —— 3–4, *Allecula akitai* sp. nov.; 3, dorsal view, 4, lateral view. —— 5–6, *Mycetochara kimotoi* sp. nov., 5, dorsal view; 6, lateral view.

occiput narrowed and inclined. Eyes rather transversely ovate in dorsal view, noticeably strongly convex postero-laterad. Antennae feebly thickened apicad, reaching basal 1/3 of elytra in male (unknown in female), ratio of the length of each segment from base to apex: 0.7, 0.4, 1.0, 1.0, 0.8, 0.9, 0.8, 1.0, 0.8, 0.7, 0.7.

Pronotum trapezoidal, gently produced laterad, and weakly sinuate in dorsal view, scattered with small punctures, each with a rather long hair; apex very slightly produced, inclined and finely rimmed in lateral parts; base not bordered, very weakly produced in medial part, weakly sinuate on each side; front angles obtuse and almost invisible from above, hind angles nearly rectangular in dorsal view; disc weakly convex broadly in middle, somewhat triangularly depressed in postero-lateral parts; sides rather steeply inclined in anterior parts, nearly horizontal in posterior parts; lateral margins finely serrate and haired. Scutellum linguiform, weakly convex, punctulate and haired.

Elytra about 2.2 times as long as wide, 4.5 times the length and 1.27 times the width of pronotum; dorsum gently convex, weakly depressed medially, obliquely depressed close to base on each side; discal rows of small punctures with long hairs; intervals feebly convex, scattered with small punctures, which are about 1/4 in size of those in rows, each with a hair; sides steeply inclined in anterior parts, gently so in posterior parts; lateral margins bordered and finely rimmed, barely visible from above; humeri feebly humped antero-laterad; apices gently rounded.

Terminal segment of maxillary palpus triangular in male (unknown in female).

Pro- and metasterna somewhat coriaceous; abdomen weakly microsculptured, scattered with rather transverse punctures, each with a yellowish hair, anal sternite rounded at apex.

Legs somewhat long-sized for a member of this genus; tarsi not dilated towards each apex, ratios of lengths of pro-, meso- and metatarsal segments: 0.8, 0.5, 0.5, 0.3, 1.0; 1.2, 0.7, 0.6, 0.4, 0.9; 2.6, 1.2, 0.8, 1.1.

Male genitalia subfusiform in dorsal view, 1.00 mm in length and 0.20 mm in width, rather strongly curved in lateral view; fused lateral lobes with lateral faces of apical parts denticulate.

Body length: 5.3 mm.

Holotype: ♂, "Sudama-chô, Hatchôdaira, Yamanashi Pref., C. Honshû, Japan, 4–VII–1998, T. KIMOTO leg." (NSMT).

Notes. This new species somewhat resembles *Mycetochara elongata* MIYATAKE, 1985, originally described from Shikoku, but can be distinguished from the latter by the elytra neither striated nor maculated.

要　　約

花塚正裕・益本仁雄・近　雅博：日本産クチキムシ亜科の２新種．―― 日本産クチキムシ亜科（ゴミムシダマシ科）の甲虫で，クチキムシ属の１新種およびヒメクチキムシ属の１新種を記載し，*Allecula akitai* sp. nov. および *Mycetochara kimotoi* sp. nov. と命名した．

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